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**ABSTRACT** 

A sensor for a vehicle belt retractor includes a housing, an excitation mass, a locking

mechanism which locks the belt retractor, and a lever arm connected to the housing.

The lever arm is in contact with the excitation mass and engages the locking

mechanism when the excitation mass moves relative to the housing. The sensor

further includes a damper that restricts vertical displacement of the excitation mass

relative to the housing.

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